

24-Hour Bike Ride Against Crime raises over \$2,600

Captain Dennis James of the Taylorsville Police Department pedaled harder and raised more money this year for Crime Stoppers, during his "24-Hours Ride Against Crime in Memory of Cindy Livingston."

Dennis rode his bicycle from 1 p.m. Friday, April 24, to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 25, around the track at Alexander Central High School.

The police captain traveled 226 miles, 16 more than his ride last year, and raised over \$2,600, up from the \$2,238 total for 2008.

The ride concluded at Crime Stoppers Day at the Walmart parking lot where activities were held from 10 am to 2 pm.

Six riders joined Dennis for portions of the ride giving him support and company and included his wife, Shelia, Steve Bumgarner, Luke and Aaron Buckner, Eric Winebarger, and David Bentley.

James issued a special thanks to Rich French, Russell Greene, ACHS for use of the track and facilities, Joanna Crew and her classes, the Taylorsville Police Department and the Alexander County Sheriff's Department for helping with the 24-hour ride. He also expressed appreciation to all those who donated to the fund raising ride.

Alexander County Crime Stoppers is an all volunteer organization that raises funds, through donations and fundraising events, to assist local law enforcement. Crime Stoppers takes anonymous tips on area crimes and gives awards to callers providing beneficial information for solving crimes.

In addition, Crime Stoppers has helped to purchase and maintain the Sheriff's office patrol boat used on Lake Hickory, and CHIP, the motorized patrol car used to help school children learn about officers and law enforcement. The organization has also donated funds for equipment such as stop sticks, an in-car camera, and tasers.

Officers of Alexander County Crime Stoppers

include: Karen McClure, president; Tamara Arndt, vice president; Sue Watts, treasurer; Judy Feimster, secretary. Members of the board of directors include Frank Patterson, Rita Pennell, Linda Bebbler, Billy Sprinkle, Carole Rogers, Tim Keever, Randy Mundy, Doug Livingston, Crystal Beale, Megan McClure, Lt. James Gribble, Chief Deputy Chris Bowman, Captain Dennis James, and the Alexander County Sheriff's Office Explorers.

The annual awards program was held at the Walmart parking lot at 1 pm. Harry and Matt Schrum provided music for the event.

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